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New Citizenship Act – a more equitable piece of legislation, 1

Canadian skaters at this year's international competitions, 3

External Affairs Minister visits Republic of Korea, 4

Film Board wins five awards at U.S. film festival, 4

Satellite symphony, 4

Forestry tire, world's largest, 4

Canadian travellers still spending more, 4

Contribution to UNRWA, 4

President of Indonesia visits, 5

Canadian participation continues in Cyprus Emergency Force, 5

Retail sales booming, 5

Grain substitute sought for feeding beef cattle, 5

Amended Farm Credit Act encourages young farmers, 5

Olympic flame 'electrified', 6

Aircraft gas station – over North Pole, 6

International trade fairs, 6

Towards diplomatic relations with Mozambique, 6

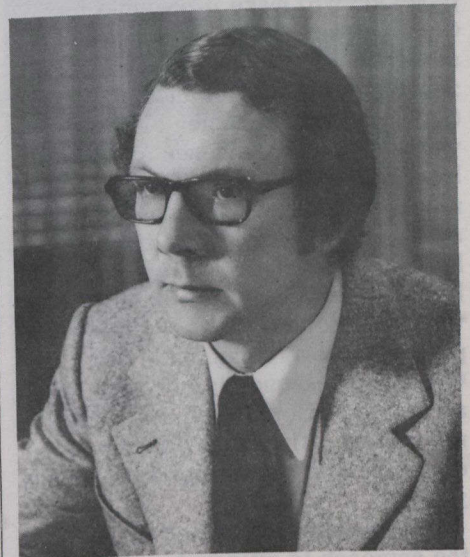
New Citizenship Act – a more equitable piece of legislation

In moving the second reading of Bill C-20, respecting citizenship, Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner recently explained to the House of Commons various proposed changes to the existing Citizenship Act, which has been in force since 1947. The following are his remarks regarding British subjects and several measures which, he said, "would make Bill C-20 a more liberal piece of legislation than the current Citizenship Act":

...Under the present act, a British subject wishing to become a Canadian citizen has a much simpler road to follow than does an ordinary alien. He is not questioned on his knowledge of the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship. He is not tested on his knowledge of the English or French language. No interview is conducted to determine his character. He does not appear before a judge to take the oath of allegiance unless he himself requests it. Normally, he simply takes the oath before an examiner at the time of application.

Since one of the main reasons for drafting a new Citizenship bill is to give this country citizenship legislation that is firmly based on principles of fairness, the preferential treatment of one group of potential citizens over another is no longer acceptable. For this reason, the privileged status formerly granted to British subjects has not been maintained in the new bill. British subjects will now be treated like other applicants.

Another point with regard to British subjects is the removal from the new bill of the phrase which appears in the present act "a Canadian citizen is a British subject". There are those who think that the removal of this phrase will mean that Canadians travelling abroad will no longer have the protection of British legations. This is not the case, Mr. Speaker. Canadian citizens now receive the protection of the British legation where no Canadian mission exists because the Canadian Government has made arrangements with the United Kingdom for such services to be provided to Canadian citizens. Such services in no way depend on the fact that Canadian citizens are termed British subjects under the present Citizenship Act.



Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner

The phrase "a Canadian citizen is a British subject" was, in reality, a transitional one. Before 1947, every resident of a country that was part of the British Empire, or latterly, of the British Commonwealth, was designated a British subject. The Citizenship Act of 1947 was the first law passed in any Commonwealth country to create a citizenship separate from that of British subject. The old phrase "British subject" was kept on, as I said, transitionally. Since then, distinct citizenship has been adopted by most Commonwealth countries, including the United Kingdom itself.

Commonwealth citizen

What we are proposing now is to add a phrase to our citizenship law which recognizes today's realities. In the new bill we have recognized the status of "citizen of the Commonwealth". In so doing, we acknowledge the ties of friendship that exist between Canada and all members of the British Commonwealth, not all of whom can any

longer be properly designated by the term British subject. Furthermore, in recognizing this status the bill provides that the special status accorded to British subject in any other Canadian legislation shall henceforth be applicable to all persons who are citizens of the Commonwealth.

Canadians returning home

Mr. Speaker, let us now look briefly at several measures which make Bill C-20 a more liberal piece of legislation than the current Citizenship Act. One such provision will make it possible for Canadian citizens who have been residing abroad and have lost their citizenship in one way or another over time to resume Canadian citizenship with one year's residence after they have become landed in Canada. It did not seem fair that a person who had qualified as a Canadian citizen and had resided here for many years, and had for some reason lived abroad for a while, would have to go through a long process all over again on his return to Canada. Consequently, we have made a change. Such a person may normally resume his citizenship if he again becomes landed and resides here for one year.

A second measure which liberalizes the approach to citizenship is the removal of the requirement that an unsuccessful applicant must wait two years before a new application can be considered. A provision of the present act, that waiting period may well have had an intimidating effect on potential citizens and in certain cases it may even have created hardship. If a person is genuinely mistaken when he applies at a time when he presumes he has achieved qualification, let us say in knowledge or language proficiency, there is no justification for withholding a subsequent application for a minimum period of two years. Therefore, in the proposed legislation the restriction has been removed.

Citizenship waiting period

Another of these liberal provisions is the reduction in the waiting period from five years to three. Rather surprisingly, Mr. Speaker, this is a change which has caused some discussion. We have received some letters claiming that people cannot acquire a genuine understanding of this country in anything less than five years. We have received

others claiming that all immigrants are automatically going to become citizens after three years. Of course, neither of these contentions is true. On the contrary, some immigrants may want to wait 25 or even 30 years before acquiring citizenship. But for the many immigrants who do want to apply for citizenship as soon as their residency requirement has been fulfilled, five years seems an inordinately long time to wait.

Looking at the minimum waiting period, we felt that it was arbitrary and unfair to penalize those who feel themselves ready to apply before a five-year term is up. After all, we live in a society where highly sophisticated systems of telecommunications not only put us instantaneously in touch with events across the country but link us to events in the far corners of the earth and even beyond. The fact that such a wealth of information is so readily available to every potential citizen is a cogent argument for the reduction of the waiting period.

Good character requirement scrapped
Another change which is proposed in the bill is the removal of the requirement that an applicant be "of good character".

...I would now like to outline our reasoning. I said a little earlier that the fundamental change in the bill is that citizenship is made a right upon compliance with certain specific statutory requirements. If the seemingly simple notion of good character were to be retained, therefore, it would have to be somehow rendered into a measurable requirement. But that exercise is not quite as simple as determining a person's age or requiring a look at a birth certificate or immigration landing date, or even verifying the applicant's knowledge of Canada or of one of its official languages. Even these latter two can be tested uniformly. Language and knowledge tests abound in schools and universities and can be used as models. But character is not so easy; it is more nebulous; more likely to be left to arbitrary appreciation.

We have examined the idea of leaving the task, as at present, to our citizenship judges and letting them determine whether an applicant is of "good character". The problem there is that the phrase itself is open to so vast a range of interpretation as to make it

no more than a subjective evaluation on the part of the citizenship judge, and thus to render its application as a standard requirement open to serious controversy. I am sure that if I ask each honourable member individually and privately how he or she would define the term "good character", I will get as many answers as there are individuals in the House. While citizenship judges may have interpreted the phrase with responsibility and good sense, nevertheless the fact remains that the application of the requirement has necessarily been an arbitrary thing, especially with regard to any distinction between public and private behaviour.

Mr. Speaker, leaving aside our technical problems for the moment, I ask the House to consider why we should try to test character in such a manner. After all, what is citizenship? It is the act of participating in a political system. Participation in Canada's economic and social systems are granted by residency, by simply being here legally. Very roughly stated, Canadian citizenship enables one to do several things: to vote; to run for public office; to carry a Canadian passport; to exercise certain activities where citizenship is a statutory prerequisite. It also allows one to enjoy an almost indefinable sense of belonging to, contributing to and participating in Canada. The conferring of citizenship is an enabling gesture on the part of the Government to lift all barriers which stand in the way of the full political participation of an individual.

Citizenship is not a reward for good behaviour. It is not a prize to be awarded only to the more meritorious. The native born do all the things I listed a moment ago without any test of character. I have reached the conclusion that the broad character requirement in the present act is indefinable, unrealistic and unfair. As practised in the past and in any known design, it punishes, sometimes wrongfully, human behaviour not punishable by law. For these reasons, in Bill C-20 we have turned to the law. Instead of the nebulous phrase "good character", we have set down specific criteria which can be invoked without fear of abuse.

Under the new bill, certain sections of the Criminal Code and the Narcotics Control Act will provide these neces-

Canadian skaters at this year's international competitions

Canadian Figure Skating Association president Stanley Allen recently announced the names of skaters who will take part in international competitions and in Skate Canada '75 later this year.

In the Nebelhorn Trophy, Oberstdorf, Germany, from August 14 to 17, will be Ted Barton of Vancouver, fourth in the Canadian senior men's championship this year in Quebec City; Lorna Wighton of Toronto and John Dowding of Oakville, Ontario, fourth in the senior dance championships; and Judie Jeffcott of Scarborough, Ontario and Keith Swindlehurst of Richmond Hill, Ontario, the junior dance champions.

Ted Barton will also represent Canada at the IX Grand Prix International at St. Gervais, France, from August 19 to 25.

Barbara Berezowski and David Porter of Toronto, Canadian senior dance champions, will enter the Prestige Housewares International Invitation



Barbara Berezowski and David Porter

Ice Dance Competition in London, England, from October 1 to 5.

Lynn Nightingale of Ottawa, women's singles champion, will compete for the Richmond Trophy in Middlesex, England, in November and, at the Moscow Skate in the Soviet Union in December, Berezowski and Porter; Susan Carscallen and Eric Gillies of Toronto, runners up in the senior dance championship; Candy Jones of Toronto and Don Fraser of Richmond Hill, Canadian pairs champions; and Stan Bohonek, Toronto, third in Canadian men's singles will represent Canada.

Skate Canada '75

The following skaters have been chosen to enter the Skate Canada '75 championships in Edmonton, Alberta from October 23 to 26:

Kim Alletson, Ottawa, Canadian women's senior silver medalist; Susan MacDonald, Vancouver, third in the Canadian championships; Camille Rebus, Edmonton, junior champion; Toller Cranston, Toronto, senior men's champion; Ron Shaver, Galt, Ontario, member of the 1975 team at Colorado, United States in March; Kevin Hicks, Windsor, Ontario, junior men's champion; Berezowski and Porter; Carscallen and Gilles; and Wighton and Dowding.



Susan Carscallen and Eric Gillies



Candy Jones and Don Fraser



Stan Bohonek

External Affairs Minister visits Republic of Korea

The Department of External Affairs announced recently that the Secretary of State of External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen, would visit the Republic of Korea on June 26 and 27 at the invitation of Foreign Minister Dong Jo Kim. Mr. MacEachen, said the announcement, would call on the President and on the Prime Minister and would meet with Foreign Minister Kim to exchange views on matters of common concern.

Film Board wins five awards at U.S. film festival

The National Film Board recently won five awards, including three firsts, at the seventeenth Annual American Film Festival in New York city.

Three blue ribbons went to the films *Tour en l'air*, a portrait of the Canadian husband-wife ballet team, Anna-Marie and David Holmes; *In Search of the Bowhead Whale*, a documentary on a fascinating expedition to photograph this rare creature; and *Hunger*, a computer-assisted animated short, which won Special Jury Prize at the 1974 Cannes Festival.

He's Not the Walking Kind, the story of a young handicapped man who is determined to succeed in life; and *Accident*, about a man who survives a plane crash to relate his experiences, took red ribbons.

Satellite symphony

A second series of two-way television links between France and Canada using the Franco-German satellite *Symphonie* has demonstrated the value of this kind of international exchange and points to greater use of the experimental satellite in the future, Minister of Communications Gérard Pelletier said recently.

In the first week of June, a two-way television link was established between the STOLport at Ottawa and the Salon du Bourget near Paris, site of the Paris Air Show. The experiment enabled visitors at the Paris Air Show to see on television monitors a demon-

stration filmed in Canada of the DHC-7, a new short-take off and landing passenger aircraft.

Mr. Pelletier said he expected that provincial governments or certain organizations may want to participate in international communications experiments using the *Symphonie* satellite. Proposals for such experiments should be co-ordinated by the Department of External Affairs and the Department of Communications.

Experimenters, so far, have had the free use of earth-station facilities and Mr. Pelletier said that the Government was studying the possibility that this would be continued. The Canadian Overseas Telecommunications Corporation (COTC) is the organization responsible for the co-ordination in Canada for overseas satellite links whether experimental or commercial.

The current series of experiments with the *Symphonie* satellite was inaugurated April 3, 1975 with a two-way television conversation between Mr. Pelletier and Aymar Achille-Fould, the Secretary of State for Post and Telecommunications in France.

Forestry tire, world's largest

Off-highway tires used throughout the world by mining, forestry and construction industries are manufactured by United Tire & Rubber Co. Ltd, Rexdale, Ontario.

The 30-year-old company recently introduced what is claimed to be the world's largest tire for use in forestry. Designed to improve traction and stability on equipment weighing up to 60,000 pounds (27,240kg), the 38-by-35 tire is available in 20- and 24-ply ratings and has a diameter of 94 inches (238.7cm).

The new tire, which will virtually eliminate the need for chains, will enable users of log-loaders, dozers, harvesters and even giant skidders to receive increased traction, flotation and stability.

The nylon-belted tread is 4 inches (10.1cm) deep with 4 inch-wide tread bars spaced 12.1 inches (30.7cm) apart to provide maximum self-cleaning action. A void taper of 20 degrees narrows to 15 degrees at the shoulder and the tire's 12 pitches are set at 35-degree angles.

Canadian travellers still spending more

Statistics Canada reports that preliminary estimates show Canada earned \$178 million from international travel in the first quarter of 1975. But Canadians travelling abroad spent \$680 million in the same period, leaving the international travel account with a deficit of \$502 million.

United States residents spent \$134 million in Canada and \$44 million was spent by visitors from all other countries. Canadian spending abroad in the first quarter was estimated at \$459 million in the U.S. and \$221 million in all other countries.

Sharply higher spending by Canadians in the U.S. in the first quarter compared with the 1974 period was partly a result of Easter travel being in the first quarter of 1975 as opposed to the second quarter of 1974 and an increase in longer term visits, which had a strong impact on average expenditure. Also, estimates covering the first quarter of 1974 were unusually depressed by the gasoline shortages which were widespread at that time.

The large growth in payments by Canadians to the U.S. significantly increased the balance-of-payments deficit on the travel account for the first quarter over last year's. The travel account deficit of \$502 million was up from \$362 million in 1974. The deficit was \$325 million with the U.S. and \$177 million with all other countries.

Contribution to UNRWA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced on June 12 that a cheque for \$1,200,000, constituting part of Canada's contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), had been given to the United Nations.

Canada's total contribution for the financial year 1975/76 will amount to \$3,200,000 of which \$2 million will be provided in flour and the balance in cash. Since UNRWA began its relief, health and education programs in 1950, the Canadian Government has contributed over \$35 million, which ranks Canada as the Fund's fourth largest contributor.

President of Indonesia visits

President of Indonesia and Mrs. Soeharto will pay a state visit to Canada from July 2 to 5 as guests of Governor-General and Mrs. Léger at Government House.

The President's program in Ottawa will include discussions with the Prime Minister and members of the Government on various aspects of Canada/Indonesia relations and international affairs. This visit will provide President Soeharto and Mr. Trudeau with an opportunity to renew their acquaintance made during the Prime Minister's visit to Indonesia in 1971.

Canadian participation continues in Cyprus Emergency Force

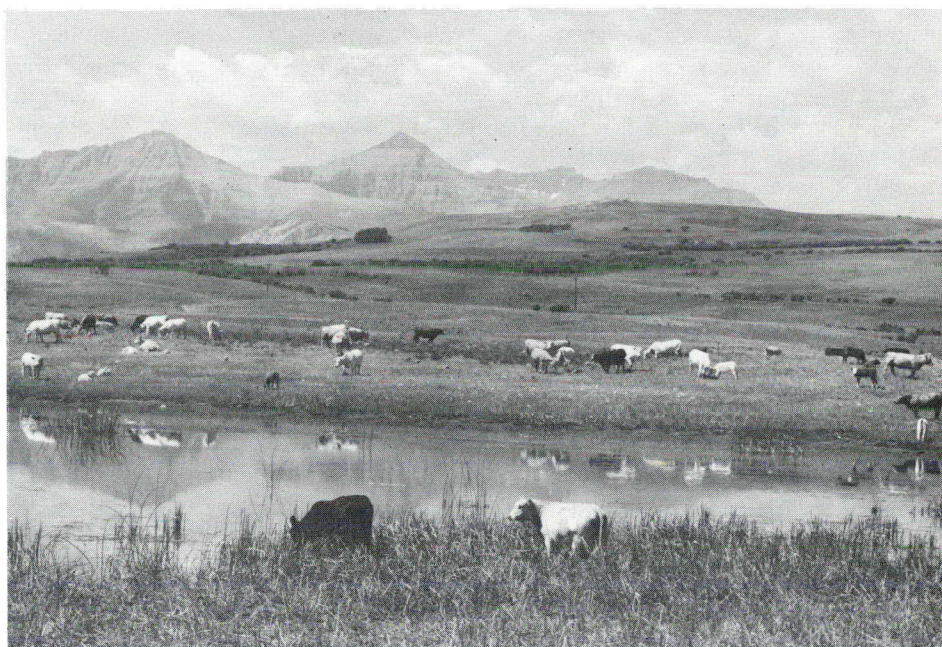
Following a request from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Canada has agreed to continue to participate in the United Nations Emergency Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for a further period of six months from June 15. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, who made the announcement, noted that the Force was playing an important role in Cyprus in maintaining stability, bringing humanitarian relief to the needy and facilitating conditions under which the necessary political negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the island's problems can take place.

The United Nations Force in Cyprus is made up of personnel from Australia, Austria, Britain, Denmark, Finland, Ireland and Sweden, as well as Canada. The present Canadian contingent, is the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22^e Regiment, usually stationed at the Citadel in Quebec City.

Retail sales booming

During April, sales in department stores rose in Canada by 12.4 per cent over those in the corresponding month last year. Sales were up 18.0 per cent in the Atlantic Provinces; 6.0 per cent in Quebec; 11.0 per cent in Ontario; 13.4 per cent in Manitoba; 24.7 per cent in Saskatchewan; 15.0 per cent in Alberta and 17.0 per cent in British Columbia.

Grain substitute sought for feeding beef cattle



Agriculture Canada is looking for more economical ways of feeding beef cattle. Cattle are ruminants and can thrive on coarse, fibrous plant material and agricultural by-products. Even

wood by-products can be used as cattle feed, replacing costly grains. These beef cattle, grazing in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, can thrive on coarse grasses and fibrous materials.

Amended Farm Credit Act encourages young farmers

Changes in the Farm Credit Act are making it easier for young men and women to become farmers.

"Increased costs of land and of all other farm inputs made it necessary for us to reconsider the credit needs of farmers," says Baldur Kristjanson, chairman of the Farm Credit Corporation (FCC).

"Inflation was also making it next to impossible for young people to get into farming."

Under the amended Farm Credit Act, a person under 35 years of age can borrow up to \$150,000 to set up or to improve a farm.

A farmer under 35 now needs less capital of his own to get started in farming. A young borrower previously had to demonstrate above-average efficiency to borrow up to 90 per cent of the productive value of land, equipment and livestock. The new requirements stress competent management and repayment ability. And loans can now also be made in excess of the 90 percent level.

Young persons wishing to farm will

get the chance to phase into that occupation gradually. One of the amendments allows a person under 35 to take up to five years to set up his or her farm. Previously, the corporation could only lend to people who were principally occupied in farming.

"But this provision is not to be mistaken for an open-door policy for anyone wishing to live in the country and enjoy the fresh air," Dr. Kristjanson says.

"The intention is to permit young persons to earn off-farm income while they develop a sound commercial farm business which will be their main source of livelihood within five years,"

Applicants under this new amendment will have to provide a detailed plan for developing and operating their farms. They will have to explain what crops and what livestock they will have. And the plan must show how the farm will gradually provide the income needed by the farmer and his family.

This implies reasonable knowledge and experience in the type of farming proposed.

Olympic flame 'electrified'

The Olympic Flame for the 1976 Olympic Games will be transported to Canada from Greece by satellite.

The Flame will be ignited in the traditional manner by sun rays at the Temple of Hera at Olympia, Greece, at 11 a.m. on July 13 next year. Runners will carry it to Athens, arriving there July 15, and a Canadian athlete will light the Flame at Panathenian Stadium.

The torch will then be carried to another urn, where, through the use of an electronic sensor, the particles will be transformed into electric impulses which will be transmitted by satellite to Ottawa.

A laser beam at the receiving end will convert the impulses back to the Flame's original form and Canadian runners will carry the torch to Montreal where, at 4.30 p.m. July 17, it will enter Olympic Stadium.

Aircraft gas station — over North Pole

The first refuelling in the air over the North Pole by Canadian Forces' aircraft took place recently.

Five aircraft — a Boeing 707 and four CF-5 jet fighters travelling at over 500 mph at 31,000 feet, left Cold Lake, Alberta, June 18. The CF-5s refuelled on their way to the North Pole and returned *via* Thule, Greenland.

One 707 tanker enables four CF-5s to fly about 3,000 miles, whereas normal ferry range for a CF-5 is about 1,000 miles.

The Boeing 707 tanker can carry 158,000 pounds of fuel and is capable of transferring 1,000 pounds a minute to two CF-5s from each wing-tip. It takes about two minutes to refuel a CF-5 in this manner.

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Algunos números de esta publicación parecen también en español bajo el título Noticiario de Canadá.

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

International trade fairs

Canada Courier recently published the following list of international trade shows, for the balance of the year, at which Canadian goods and equipment will be displayed in exhibits co-ordinated by the federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce:

Twentieth World Veterinary Congress, Thessalonika, Greece: July 6-12.

International Restaurant Equipment Fair (IREF), Tokyo, Japan: August.

Twelfth Algiers International Trade Fair, Algiers: August-September.

Izmir International Trade Fair, Izmir, Turkey: August 20-September 20.

Semaine du Cuir, Paris, France: September 6-9.

International Airport Construction and Equipment Exhibition, Brussels, Belgium: September 15-18.

Europe Offshore Exhibition and Conference, Aberdeen, Scotland: September 16-19.

Tehran International Trade Fair, Tehran, Iran: September 13-24.

Salon Professionnel des Articles de Sport et Loisir de Plein Air (SISEL), Paris, France: September 14-16.

Baghdad International Trade Fair, Baghdad, Iraq: October 1-21.

Second World Telecommunications Exhibition (Telcom '75), Geneva, Switzerland: October 2-8.

Fourth International Nuclear Industries Fair, (NUCLEX '75), Basle, Switzerland: October 7-11.

Twenty-first Japanese Motor Show, Tokyo, Japan: October 31-November 10.

Shipbuilding, Marine Engineering and Communication Exhibition (Europort '75), Amsterdam, the Netherlands: November 11-15.

Thirty-fourth Interstoff Trade Fair, Frankfurt, Germany: November 18-21.

International Building Exhibition (BATIMAT), Paris, France: November 20-30.

Towards diplomatic relations with Mozambique

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, stated recently that the Canadian Government welcomed the establishment of Mozambique as a sovereign state on June 25 and that discussions would be initiated

with the Mozambique authorities with a view to establishing formal diplomatic relations.

Mr. MacEachen recalled that he earlier indicated Canada's intentions in this regard when he announced the creation of a special diplomatic mission to Angola and Mozambique.

Mr. MacEachen expressed hope that the two countries would be able to co-operate and establish mutually beneficial contacts over the whole range of bilateral relations. He reaffirmed Canada's intention to assist Mozambique to enforce sanctions against Rhodesia and said that Canada would fully participate in and support any Commonwealth initiatives to this end at the United Nations.

New Citizenship Act —

(Continued from P. 2)

sary guide-lines. About these guide-lines there can be no dispute. After all, a person either has done certain things or he has not; he is certain things or he is not. The law deals with law-breakers, native and foreign-born. The removal of the words "good character" is an important step in the direction away from arbitrary discretion. It is a step which is totally in keeping with the basic change of the new citizenship bill which redefines citizenship as a qualified right where certain stated conditions are satisfied.

Under present Canadian law, citizenship is, as I said, a grant made at the discretion of the minister. I think this discretion has been fairly administered over the years. In principle, though, if not in practice, such an approval allows for the imposition of conditions which are not stated in law. It permits the possibility of arbitrary exercise of authority without public or legislative sanction. The new citizenship bill corrects this situation. In the new bill, however, Section 18 of the proposed legislation does grant discretion to the Governor in Council to refuse to grant citizenship or resumption of citizenship, or to recognize the renunciation of citizenship if it would be prejudicial to the security of Canada or contrary to public order in Canada. This, I believe, provides adequate and proper exceptional intervention in extreme cases.